AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 2

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 25, through page 3, line 7 as indicated below:

However, the operation of the power transmission mechanism switching mechanism itself is performed in response to the operation of moving the optical pickup itself further inwardly of the data area of the optical disk in the optical disk device disclosed in the above-mentioned publication. For switching between the pickup feed operation and the turntable raising/lowering operation, it is necessary to move the optical pickup further widely inwardly from the data area of the optical disk. However, a spindle motor for the disk rotating operation is provided near the center of an ~~outer~~ inner region of the optical disk.

Page 4

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 11, through page 5, line 4 as indicated below:

A ~~semiconductor~~ optical disk device according to the present invention is an optical disk device capable of storing and ejecting an optical disk for recording or reproducing a signal on the optical disk stored therein, the optical disk device comprising: a turntable for rotatably supporting the optical disk stored; a rotatable drive source mechanism for rotatably driving said turntable; a turntable raising/lowering mechanism for vertically moving said turntable between a

lowered position in which interference with the optical disk stored or ejected is avoided and a raised position in which the optical disk stored is supportable; an optical pickup for recording a signal on the optical disk supported by said turntable or reproducing a signal; a pickup drive mechanism for reciprocally moving said optical pickup between an inner region and an outer region of the optical disk supported by said turntable; a dual-purpose drive source mechanism for generating a driving force for said turntable raising/lowering mechanism and said pickup drive mechanism; and a first operation switching mechanism for performing a first switching operation for switching a transmission path of the driving force of said dual-purpose drive source mechanism from a path leading to said pickup drive mechanism to a path leading to said turntable raising/lowering mechanism, or vice versa, wherein said first operation switching mechanism performs said first switching operation by an operation independent of said optical pickup under the driving force of said dual-purpose drive source mechanism.

Page 9

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 22, through line 24 as indicated below:

An optical pickup 57 is supported by the traverse chassis 51 movably along the directions ~~directions~~ of the Y axis. This optical pickup 57 records a signal on the optical disk or reproduces a signal recorded on the optical disk.

Page 12

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 5, through line 14 as indicated below:

Specifically, the main shaft guide 60 is formed to have a rod-shaped configuration. One end portion ((+)Y direction side end portion) of the main shaft guide 60 is fixed to the traverse chassis 51 by a flat head screw 61, and ~~an end portion~~ of the other end portion ((-)Y direction side end portion) of the main shaft guide 60 is fitted, supported and fixed in a bearing hole (not shown) formed in the traverse chassis 51. One side portion of the optical pickup 57 is slidably inserted and supported in a longitudinally intermediate portion of the main shaft guide 60, whereby the optical pickup 57 is supported movably along the directions of the Y axis (see Figs. 7 to 9). The other side portion of the optical pickup 57 is formed as a sliding portion slidable on the traverse chassis 51.

Page 23

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 21, through page 24, line 5 as indicated below:

The tray gear 13 is rotatably supported by a supporting shaft portion 14 in one side portion of the end portion of the main chassis 11 toward which the disk tray 12 ~~of the traverse unit 50~~ is extended (in the (-)Y direction). The tray gear 13 has a small gear portion 13b always meshing with the fourth gear 68 on the traverse unit 50, and a large gear portion 13a intermittently meshing with the rack portion 12a formed on the disk tray 12 side. Whether the small gear portion 13b and the large gear portion 13a are large or small means whether the pitch circle radii thereof are large or small. That is, the pitch circle radius of the small gear portion

13b is smaller than the pitch circle radius of the large gear portion 13a. The number of teeth of the large gear portion 13a and the number of teeth of the small gear portion 13b are equal to each other.

Page 24

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 10, through line 14 as indicated below:

The cam slider 15 is supported in the end portion of the main chassis 11 toward which the tray ~~of the traverse unit 50~~ is extended (in the (-)Y direction) for reciprocal movement along directions (directions of the X axis) orthogonal to the directions in which the disk tray 12 is extended and retracted. Fig. 12 is a perspective view showing the cam slider 15.

Page 32

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 1, through line 13 as indicated below:

In the above-mentioned second operation switching operation, it is necessary to prevent a situation wherein a shift occurs in the positions of the cam slider 15 and the rack portion 12a of the disk tray 12 relative to each other. That is, in a position wherein the meshing engagement between the large gear portion 13a of the tray gear 13 and the rack portion 12a of the disk tray 12 is initiated, the cam slider 15 is required to have been moved to a predetermined position wherein the meshing engagement between the rack portion 15d of the cam slider 15 and the small gear portion 13b of the tray gear 13 is releasable. If the cam slider 15 has not yet reached the above-mentioned predetermined position or has been beyond the predetermined position in the position wherein the meshing engagement between the large gear portion of the tray gear 13

and the rack portion 12a of the tray 12 is initiated, the above-mentioned second operation switching operation does not normally operates due to the interference between the boss portion 15c and the guide grooves 12c, 12d and the like.

Page 33

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 20, through page 34, line 5, as indicated below:

When the above-mentioned cam slider 15 continues moving further, the meshing engagement between the rack portion 15d of the cam slider 15 and the small gear portion 13b of the tray gear 13 is released in response thereto, and the slide rack ~~57~~ 58 moves to come into meshing engagement with the small gear portion 64b of the feed gear 64 (the first switching operation). This causes the driving force of the dual-purpose motor 62 to be transmitted from the feed gear 64 through the slide rack 58 as a force for moving the optical pickup 57. This makes the optical pickup 57 movable in the direction toward the outer region of the optical disk.

Page 35

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 6, through line 16 as indicated below:

On the other hand, when the system with this optical disk device 1 incorporated therein is powered ~~off~~ on, a power-on signal is provided to a drive controller 82 (to be described later) of this optical disk device 1. Thus, the drive controller 82 rotatably drives the dual-purpose motor 62 to cause the optical pickup drive mechanism to move the optical pickup 57 to the pressing release position where the pressing of the second switch 72 by the switch pressing portion 57b is

released. The optical pickup 57 reads the positional information on the optical disk in this pressing release position, and is thereafter moved to the innermost position of the data area, based on the positional information. The optical pickup 57 moves on the optical disk with reference to the innermost position after the movement to reproduce the information signal on the optical disk.

Page 38

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 9, through line 20 as indicated below:

Fig. 18 is a block diagram of a system constructed using this optical disk device 1. As shown in Fig. 18, ~~as shown in Fig. 18,~~ a signal read by the optical pickup 57 is outputted through a signal processor 81 to the outside, or a predetermined signal is provided through the signal processor 81 to the optical pickup 57. A detection output from each of the first switch 71 and the second switch 72 is provided to the drive controller 82, and the positional information read by the optical pickup 57 is provided through the signal processor 81 to the drive controller 82. The driving control of the spindle motor 54 and the dual-purpose motor 62 are effected through a driving circuit not shown under the control of the drive controller 82. The above-mentioned signal processor 81 and the drive controller 82 may be incorporated in an external device (substrate) connected through the relay substrate 70 as will be described later, or be incorporated in the relay substrate 70 itself.